

Advisory Council for
Asian Pacific American Affairs
December 5, 2005 Meeting Summary

The Advisory Council for Asian Pacific American Affairs held its December meeting at the Michigan Department of Civil Rights Executive Office in Lansing, with welcoming remarks from H. Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D., Chair.

The Council heard a presentation from Dylan Sugiyama about his family's internment in American camps during World War II. Mr. Sugiyama is a Civil Rights Representative with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights in Lansing.

The Council also heard from Harold Core about updates to the ACAPAA web page within the MDCR's public web site. Mr. Core is Public Information Officer for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and works in the Executive Office in Lansing.

The Council heard reports from several sub-committees. The Community/Demographics Committee has formulated several priorities, including data collection from the APA community, participation of APAs across the state, and dissemination of demographic information. The Civil Rights Committee has developed a survey instrument to gather information from the APA community about its civil rights priorities, and Council consultant Michael Robley facilitated discussion about the Council's declared Initiatives: Civil Rights, Immigration, Health, Education (K-16) and Education (Governance and Professional Education.) Mr. Robley is a partner Meta Dynamics of Troy, a company that specializes in team and organizational dynamics.

Under Old Business, Council member Amy Ku'uleialoha Stillman provided updated information on a September 15 University of Michigan incident.

Under New Business, Harold Core reported that a letter of appreciation from the Council to the Legislature for budget item action will be sent to the Governor's office for distribution.

It was announced that there will be an Asian Pacific American leadership summit held at the Chinese Community Center in Madison Heights on December 7. Keynote speaker will be MDCR Linda V. Parker, and the theme for the summit is Civil Rights.

Following the general business meeting of the Council, members adjourned to the State Capitol Building to meet with Governor Jennifer Granholm, who spoke about the business climate in the state of Michigan, as well as new business and employment opportunities.

The Advisory Council for Asian Pacific American Affairs was created by a May 2005, Executive Order from Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, to advise the Governor and the Department of Civil Rights on policy matters pertaining to Asian and Pacific Americans in Michigan. H. Sook Wilkinson, Ph.D, was appointed Chair of the Council, which was placed administratively inside the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. A copy of the Governor's Executive Order is available on the Governor's website at <http://www.michigan.gov/gov>.